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09/748,053	12/22/2000	Steven M. Blumenau	E0295/7155	4482

7590 05/27/2005	**EXAMINER**

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2134	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/748,053	BLUMENAU ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Thomas M. Ho	2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>09 February 2005</u>.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
    closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-66</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-66</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
        application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/30/05</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1.   The amendment of 2/9/05 has been received and entered.

2.   Claims 1-66 are pending.

Response to Arguments

3.   Applicant's arguments have been fully considered, but are unpersuasive.

The primary point of contention in Applicant's arguments appear to be that the

Examiner's cited art, Hubis does not disclose a method of validating a physical

connection, that is determining whether one of the plurality of devices is attempting to

access the shared resource through a physical connection different than a first physical

connection.

For Example, the Applicant's recites the following on page 28, paragraphs 2 & 3:

"In Hubis, the controller takes the information provided by the host and establishes

associations in the appropriate data structures without ever determining whether that

information is authentic or consistent. For example, the Hubis reference nowhere

discusses any mechanism for preventing multiple entities in the Host ID Map from being

established, such as by a host using the same WWN from different physical locations on

the network. Hubis simply lacks any disclosure relating to ensuring that hosts do not

spoof their identity. In particular, Hubis is completely silent with respect to determining

whether hosts that represent themselves with the same identity are attempting to access

the storage device over different physical connections."

"The Office Action asserts that column 15, lines 50-52 discloses a method of checking the

physical connection, where the access path qualifier is determined by the WWN and

comparing it with the table entries." (Office Action, Page 3). However, the WWN is a

device specific identifier that is independent of the location of the device on the network.

That is, the WWN indicates nothing about the physical connection of the device and,

therefore, is insufficient to validate a physical connection. The controller of Hubis

compares a presented WWN with current entries in the Host WWN List, but does so

merely to ascertain whether the host has previously logged in, not to verify a physical

connection as the WWN alone does not carry this information. In particular, the search

of the Host WWN List simply determines whether a Host Index for the host already exists

or whether one needs to be generated. However, this table search does not relate to, nor

can it verify, the physical connection of the device."

However, the Examiner contends that WWN comparison made by Hubis can verify the

physical connection of the device. Whether or not Hubis discloses or prevents network

identities from being spoofed is irrelevant, as such functionality is not claimed.

Hubis (Column 11, lines 45-57 and other citations of the rejection of claim 1) discloses

that a determination is made with respect to a WWN, an LUN and a host to controller

port combination. Specifically, these values are evaluated with respect to a particular

logical volume. The WWN, known as a World Wide Name is a unique identifier with

vendor supplied information.

World Wide Name

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

A World Wide Name is a unique identifier in a Fibre Channel storage network.
Each WWN is a 16 byte number derived from an IEEE OUI (for the first 3 bytes)
and vendor-supplied information (for the rest).

The Applicant has recited details regarding the WWN on page 8 of the specification:

"Each WWN is assigned by the manufacturer of the device as part of a registration

process that is controlled by the IEEE. The WWN typically includes a number of fields,

including a first that uniquely identifies the manufacturer of the device and/or HBA, and

a second that distinguishes uniquely among the devices provided by that manufacturer."

Applicant further discloses on page 9:

"Since the WWN is intended to provide an identifier that is unique to any device

anywhere in the world, it is quite lengthy.."

The Examiner contends that because the WWN can uniquely identify any device in the

world, a different physical connection would necessarily have a device with a different

WWN. For purposes of examination, the Examiner has interpreted that a different

"physical connection" as requiring the use of different devices or hardware. (see the

rejection of 35 USC § 112)

Hubis explicitly discloses (Column 11, lines 45-57) the determination of the WWN

combination with the LUN and host to controller information with respect to allowing

access to a particular volume and as such discloses that a verification of the physical

connection of the device.

Applicant's additional arguments are related to the objections of claim 1 and are

considered address by the Examiner's response to claim 1.

Further arguments and discussion with respect to Applicant's arguments can be seen in

the rejection under 35 USC § 112.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly

claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter

which applicant regards as the invention.

In light of Applicant's arguments, it is uncertain what Applicant means when the term

"physical connection" is recited.

Applicant argues the following with respect to why a WWN indicates nothing about the

physical connection of a device(page 28, paragraph 3):

"However, the WWN is a device specific identifier that is independent of the location of

the device on the network. That is, the WWN indicates nothing about the physical

connection of the device and, therefore, is insufficient to validate a physical connection."

In one instance it is suggested that Applicant makes the determination of physical

connection through ports. For Example, page 3, 2nd paragraph of the specification states:

"The method includes acts of: (a) in response to one of the plurality of devices attempting

to login to the network and representing itself to the network as a first device,

determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the

network through a port that is different than a first port of the network through which the

first device previously logged into the network."

Such an instance would suggest that by physical connection, the Applicant means

differences in port.

However, from Applicant's arguments it appears that Applicant desires the Examiner to

interpret a physical connection as having a characteristic which takes into account the

location of the device on the network. However, the Examiner contends that differences

in location has no correlation with a port that is used to connect to a network.

However, the Applicant has apparently viewed the location of a device on a network as

being significant to Applicant's interpretation of a physical connection as (page 28,

paragraph 3) of the arguments recites. The Examiner believes such an interpretation is

inconsistent with Applicant's previous interpretation of "physical connection" as implied

by the specification, which would suggest the use of WWNs, or port values.

It is uncertain now what Applicant means by the term "physical connection" or

"differences in physical connection". *At least four* different interpretations are now

possible:

(1) Does Applicant mean that the actual physical wire for transmission between two

computers is different than the first connection? For example, a switch between two

computers first uses a coaxial cable, but now employs the usage of a fibre optic cable.

Such a change is certainly a difference with the first physical connection.

(2) Does Applicant mean that different ports are used than previously? (implied by specification page 3, 2nd paragraph)

(3) Does Applicant mean that the communicating entities employ different hardware that which was previously used? If one party makes a connection with Modem A with serial number X, but now has the exact same network location, but employs Model B with serial number Y, does such a change result in a different physical connection? The Applicant has obviously deemed the location of the device on the network as significant to the same "physical connection" as indicated by the crux of Applicant's arguments: *However, the WWN is a device specific identifier that is independent of the location of the device on the network. That is, the WWN indicates nothing about the physical connection of the device and, therefore, is insufficient to validate a physical connection.* (page 28, paragraph 3) of Arguments.

Yet it is evident that the physical connection is now different than the previous as the transmitting entities are not the same, and as such the same physical connection is not and cannot be established.

(4) Does Applicant mean that at least one of the entities involved in the communication is now located at a ***different location on the network***? With respect to the TCP/IP protocol, such a change would be implied with just a mere switching of the IP address. The Examiner contends this is **NOT a physical connection**. This is a purely logical connection that may be established without any physical means whatsoever.

All of these interpretations are reasonable interpretations that may be construed by one of

ordinary skill in the art.

It is worthy to note that the first interpretation would lose meaning when the connections

are made using wireless connections. There would be no "physical" connection to

compare.

It is worthy to note that the second interpretation is not actually a physical connection.

At best a difference in port is merely one unit of a connection as understood by those

skilled in the art with respect to the TCP/IP. Furthermore, two entities may communicate

using different ports, but still be using the same connection, as it is understood that a

TCP/IP connection as a whole uses some 65 thousand ports per connection. Such an

interpretation would then necessitate an exact interpretation of the word "connection."

It is worthy to note that the third interpretation would allow a change in the physical

connection to be detected using WWNs as WWNs indicate a unique hardware number

with respect to the actual given hardware and would is consistent with the Examiner's

interpretation of detecting changes in the physical connection.

It is worthy to note that the fourth interpretation is not actually a physical connection

either, and that a difference in network location is a completely "logical" interpretation of

a connection and has no meaning in the physical world. For example, a computer A

connecting with Computer B may have on network location (ex. 234.123.213.68) in one

instance, and have another network address (ex. 234.123.213.69) in another instance.

This is known in the art as a dynamically assigned IP address. The physical connection

and hardware used is irrelevant to the IP assigned.

The third interpretation was chosen by the Examiner because it appeared most reasonable

and consistent with Applicant's disclose of the term "physical connection."

The Applicant has responded to the Examiner's arguments with an interpretation that is

inconsistent with the definition of the term "physical connection" as implied by the

specification, or is repugnant to the meaning of the term itself as readily understood in the

art. Consequently, the Examiner has no recourse but the reject the claims as being

indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by
> another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted
> on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant
> for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall
> have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the
> international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such
> treaty in the English language.

6.   Claims 1- 66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hubis et

al., US patent 6,343,324.

In reference to claim 1:

Hubis et al. (Column 11, lines 45-57) & (Figure 3b) & (Column 14, line 40 – Column 15,

line 52) discloses a method for use in a computer system including a plurality of devices,

a shared resource shared by the plurality of devices, and a network that couples the

plurality of devices to the shared resource, the method including acts of:

- In response to one of the plurality of devices attempting to access the shared

    resource and representing itself to the shared resource as a first device,

    determining whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access the

    shared resource through a physical connection through the network that is

    different than a first physical connection through the network used by the first

    device to access the shared resource, where the access path qualifier is determined

    by the WWN (Column 15, lines 50-52) and comparing it with the table entries.

- When it is determined in the fact that one of the plurality of devices is attempting

    to access the shared resource through a connection through the network that is

    different than the first physical connection, denying the attempted access by the

    one of the plurality of devices to the shared resource, when the access path is

    found not to be the same, the new host will be denied access. (Column 12, lines

    27-35)

In reference to claim 3:

Hubis et al. (Column 9, line 63 – Column 10, line 8) discloses the method of claim 1,

wherein the network is a Fibre Channel fabric, wherein the one of the plurality of devices

and the first device each has an assigned world wide name (WWN) and a fabric

identifier(fabric ID), where the fabric ID is the fibre ID.

- Wherein the method further includes a step of storing the WWN and the fabric ID

  of the first device in response to an access by the first device to the shared

  resource (Column 9, line 63 – Column 10, line 8)

- Wherein the act (a) is performed in response to an access, that occurs after the

  access by the first device, by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared

  resource, where the comparing is done by trying to access the logical volume

  (Column 12, lines 27-35) and includes acts of:

  o Examining a value of the WWN presented by the one of the plurality of

    devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the plurality of

    devices is representing itself as being the first device, where the WWN is

    examined.

  o Comparing a value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of

    devices to the stored fabric ID for the first device, where the fabric ID is

    the fiber ID and is used to verify the access path, also used to identify the

    host. (Column 10, lines 33-40) & (Column 9, line 63 – Column 10, line 8)

  o Determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access

    the shared resource through a physical connection through the network

    that is different than the first physical connection when the value of the

    fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the

stored fabric ID for the first device, where the fabric ID is the fiber ID

which determines the access path is used by the access controller to check

if its valid (Column 10, lines 37-40), and where the fiber ID is further

compared against the stored fabric IDs in the WWN table entry. (Column

14, lines 13-22, lines 53-56)

In reference to claim 4:

Hubis et al. (Column 9, line 63 – Column 10, line 8) discloses the method of claim 1,

wherein the network employs a protocol wherein the one of the plurality of devices and

the first device each has a first identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a manner

that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and a second

identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is dependent upon the

physical configuration of the computer system

- Wherein the method further includes a step of storing the first and second

  identifiers of the first device in response to an access by the first device to the

  shared resource. (Column 9, line 63 – Column 10, line 8)

- Wherein the act (a) is performed in response to an access, that occurs after the

  access by the first device, by the one of the plurality of devices to the shared

  resource, where the comparing is done by trying to access the logical volume

  (Column 12, lines 27-35) and includes acts of:

  o Examining a value of the first identifier presented by the one of the

    plurality of devices to the shared resource to determine that the one of the

plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device, where the

WWN is examined.

o   Comparing a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the

plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first

device, where the fabric ID is the fiber ID and is used to verify the access

path, also used to identify the host. (Column 10, lines 33-40) & (Column

9, line 63 – Column 10, line 8)

o   Determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to access

the shared resource through a physical connection through the network

that is different than the first physical connection through the network that

is different than the first physical connection when the value of the second

identifier presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the

stored value of the second identifier for the first device, where the fabric

ID is the fiber ID which determines the access path is used by the access

controller to check if its valid (Column 10, lines 37-40), and where the

fiber ID is further compared against the stored fabric IDs in the WWN

table entry. (Column 14, lines 13-22, lines 53-56)

In reference to claim 6, 7 , 8:

Hubis et al. (Figures 1 and Figures 2) discloses a process by the entire system that

performs actions by the partially by storage system, outside the storage system, and a

device disposed between the storage system and network.

In reference to claim 23:

Hubis et al. (Column 9, line 63 – Column 10, line 8) discloses a method for use in a

computer system including a plurality of devices, a storage system shared by the plurality

of devices, and a network that couples the plurality of devices to the storage system,

wherein the network employs a protocol wherein each of the plurality of devices has a

first identifier that uniquely identifies the devices in a manner that is independent of a

physical configuration of the computer system and a second identifier that uniquely

identifies the device in a manner that is dependent upon the physical configuration of the

computer system, the method including acts of:

- In response to a login of a first device of the plurality of devices to the storage

  system, storing the first and second identifiers of the first device, where the values

  are stored upon accessing the fiber switch to allow access paths to be assigned.

  (Column 9, line 63 – Column 10, line 8) & (Column 10, lines 30-40)

- In response to an attempt, subsequent to the act (a), by one of the plurality of

  devices to login to the storage system while representing itself to the storage

  system as the first device, determining whether the one of the plurality of devices

  is attempting to login to the storage system through a physical connection through

  the network that is different than a first physical connection through the network

  used by the first device to login to the storage system in the act(a), including acts

  of:

o (b1) examining a value of the first identifier presented by one of the

plurality of devices to the storage system to determine that the one of the

plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device, where the

WWN is examined.

(b2) comparing a value of the second identifier presented by one of the

plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first

device (Column 9, lines 50-57)

(b3) determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to

login to the storage system through a physical connection through the

network that is different than the first physical connection when the value

of the second identifier presented by the one of the plurality of the devices

mismatches the stored value of the second identifier for the first device,

where the physical connection is an access path. (Column 10, lines 33-40)

c) when it is determined in the act (b3) that the one of the plurality of

devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a physical

connection through the network that is different than the first physical

connection, denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of

devices to the storage system, (Column 12, lines 4-35) & (Column 11,

lines 45-57) where the host to controller port information is the access

path disclosed by the fiber ID, and accessed is denied if the WWN, LUN,

and host-controller-port information don't match.

In reference to claim 24:

Hubis et al. discloses the method of claim 23, wherein the network is a Fibre Channel

fabric, wherein the first identifier is a world wide name (WWN) and the second identifier

is a fabric identifier(fabric ID);

- Wherein the act(a) includes an act of; in response to a login of first device to the

  storage system, storing the WWN and the fabric ID of the first device, where the

  values are stored when the device initially logs into the fabric in order to have an

  access path. (Column 9, line 63- Column 10, line 8)

- Wherein the act(b1) includes an act of examining a value of the WWN presented

  by the one of the plurality of devices to determine that one of the plurality of

  devices is representing itself to be the first device, where the WWN is examined

  for in the WWN table. (Column 14, lines 45-55)

- Wherein the act(b2) includes an act of comparing a value of the fabric ID

  presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the stored value of the fabric ID

  for the first device, where the fabric ID is compared in how it maps to the WWN

  table. (Column 14, lines 13-20, 45-55)

- Wherein the act(b3) includes an act of determining that the one of the plurality of

  devices is attempting to login to the storage system through a physical connection

  through the network that is different than the first physical connection when the

value of the fabric ID presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches

the stored value of the fabric ID for the first device, (Column 12, lines 4-35) &

(Column 11, lines 45-57) where the host to controller port information is the

access path disclosed by the fiber ID, and accessed is denied if the WWN, LUN,

and host-controller-port information don't match.

In reference to claim 27:

Hubis et al. discloses a method for use in a computer system including a network and

plurality of devices coupled to the network, the network employing a protocol wherein

each of the plurality of devices has a first identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a

manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and a

second identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is dependent upon

the physical configuration of the computer system, the network including at least one

network component that assigns a unique value for the second identifier to each of the

plurality of devices that is logged into the network, the method including acts of:

  a) in response to one of the plurality of devices attempting to login to the network

     and representing itself to the network as a first device, determining whether the

     one of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the network through a port

     that is different than a first port of the network through which the first device

     previously logged into the network, where the host-to-controller port or the access

     path is determined by the fiber ID comparison. (Column 10, lines 33-40)

  • when it is determined in the act (a) that the one of the plurality of devices is

     attempting to access the network through a port that is different than the first port,

denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the network,

(Column 12, lines 4-35) & (Column 11, lines 45-57) where the host to controller

port information is the access path disclosed by the fiber ID, and accessed is

denied if the WWN, LUN, and host-controller-port information don't match.

In reference to claim 29:

Hubis et al. (Column 11, lines 45-58) discloses the method of claim 27, further including

an act of preventing at least one of the plurality of devices from transmitting information

through the network while representing itself with a value for the second identifier that

differs from its value assigned by the at least one network component, where the

information is prevented from being transmitted by the logon to the volume being denied.

In reference to claim 61:

Hubis et al. discloses the apparatus of claim 57, wherein the at least one controller

includes:

- Means, responsive to the login of a first device of the plurality of devices to the

  storage system, to store the first and second identifiers of the first device in the

  storage device, where the fiber channel ID, the LUN, and the WWN are stored

  upon accessing the fiber switch to allow access paths to be assigned.   (Column 9,

  line 63 – Column 10, line 8) & (Column 10, lines 30-40)

- Means, responsive to an attempt, after the login by the first device, by one of the

  plurality of devices to login to the storage system, while representing itself to the

  storage system as the first device, for examining a value of the first identifier

presented by the one of the plurality of devices to the storage system to determine

that the one of the plurality of devices is representing itself to be the first device

and for comparing a value of the second identifier presented by the one of the

plurality of devices to the stored value of the second identifier for the first device,

where the first and second identifiers are the fiber ID and the WWN which are

both compared for. The WWN is compared for in the table. (Column 11, lines

45-57) The fiber ID is used to determine the access path and is used to make a

determination of the physical route (Column 10, lines 33-40) while also being

compared for later in the WWN table. (Column 14, lines 50-55)

- Means for determining that the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to

  access the storage system through a physical connection used by the first device

  in logging into the storage system when the value of the second identifier

  presented by the one of the plurality of devices mismatches the stored value of the

  second identifier for the first device, where an attempt is made to match the

  WWN, LUN, and host-to-controller/access path/fiber ID when a request is made

  to access the logical volume. (Column 11, lines 45-57)

- Means for denying the attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the

  storage system when it is determined that the one of the plurality of devices is

  attempting to login to the storage system through a physical connection through

  the network that is different than the first physical connection, (Column 12, lines

  4-35) & (Column 11, lines 45-57) where the host to controller port information is

  the access path disclosed by the fiber ID, and accessed is denied if the WWN,

  LUN, and host-controller-port information don't match.

In reference to claim 62:

Hubis et al. discloses an apparatus for use in a computer system including a network and

a plurality of devices coupled to the network, the network employing a protocol wherein

each of the plurality of devices has a first identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a

manner that is independent of a physical configuration of the computer system and a

second identifier that uniquely identifies the device in a manner that is dependent upon

the physical configuration of the computer system, (Column 9, line 62 –Column 10, line

8)

the network including at least one network component that assigns a unique value for the

second identifier to each of the plurality of devices that is logged into the network, the

apparatus comprising, where the second identifier is the fiber ID (Column 9, line 62 –

Column 10, line 8):

- At least one input to be coupled to at least one of the plurality of devices, where

  the input is the access request. (Column 12, lines 28-31)

- At least one controller that is responsive to one of the plurality of devices

  attempting to login to the network and representing itself to the network as a first

  device, to determine whether the one of the plurality of devices is attempting to

  login to the network through a port that is different than a first port of the network

  through which the first device previously logged into the network, and to deny the

  attempted login by the one of the plurality of devices to the network when the one

  of the plurality of devices is attempting to login to the network through a port that

  is different than the first port. (Column 12, lines 28-35) & (Column 11, lines 45-

57) where the host to controller port information is the access path disclosed by

the fiber ID.

In reference to claim 63:

Hubis et al. discloses (Column 12, lines 25-35) discloses the apparatus of claim 62, in

combination with a network switch to form at least a portion of the network, wherein the

at least one controller is disposed within the switch, where the controller is the array

access controller (Item 104 of Figure 1) and is clearly disposed within the Fabric of

switches in Figure 2a.

Claims 2,5,10,14, 17, 20, 28, 32, 33, 36, 41, 45, 48, 51, 54, 55, 56 are substantially

similar to claim 1 and are rejected for the same reasons.

Claims 9, 30, 34, 40, 58, 65 are substantially similar to claim 3 and are rejected for the

same reasons.

Claims 13, 31, 35, 44, 66 are substantially similar to claim 4 and are rejected for the same

reasons.

Claims 11, 15, 18, 21, 25, 37, 42, 46, 49, 52, 59 are substantially similar to claim 6 and

are rejected for the same reasons.

Claim 38 is substantially similar to claim 7 and is rejected for the same reasons.

Claims 12, 16, 19, 22, 26, 39, 43, 47, 50, 60 are substantially similar to claim 8 and are

rejected for the same reasons.

Claim 57 is substantially similar to claim 23 and is rejected for the same reasons

Conclusion

6.   THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of

time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of the final action and the advisory action is not

mailed under after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(A) will be calculated from the mailing date of the

advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than

SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed

to Thomas M Ho whose telephone number is (571)272-3835. The examiner can normally

be reached on M-F from 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

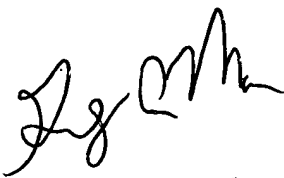supervisor, Gregory A. Morse can be reached on (571)272-3838.

The Examiner may also be reached through email through Thomas.Ho6@uspto.gov

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571)272-2100.

| General Information/Receptionist | Telephone: 571-272-2100 | Fax: 703-872-9306 |
| Customer Service Representative | Telephone: 571-272-2100 | Fax: 703-872-9306 |

TMH

May 21st, 2005

GREGORY MORSE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100